



## **Reel Stories Summer Producer + Institute Cohort: 2026** *Ages 18–24*

This summer we're launching a refreshed version of Reel Stories Institute - designed for filmmakers who want both real-world experience and meaningful time to focus on their own work!

Reel Stories Institute is a paid opportunity for emerging filmmakers to mentor other girls and gender-expansive youth during filmmaking camps, then participate in Reel Stories Institute: a five-day filmmaking intensive focused on creating new work, portfolio development, and meeting industry professionals.

Participants join the summer as **Reel Stories Producers**, working alongside our teaching team during one or both of our June programs:

### **Reel Stories Boot Camp**

*Ages 11–15*

*June 8–12, 2026 · 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM*

Boot Camp is designed for girls and gender-expansive youth who are new to filmmaking. Over five days, students write, film, and edit their own narrative movies using accessible tools they can continue using at home.

### **Camp Reel Stories**

*Ages 13–17*

*June 15–26, 2026 · 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM*

Over two weeks, filmmakers work in teams to create original films with support from Reel Stories staff and mentors. The program includes guest artists from across the film industry, offering workshops and Q&As that expand students' understanding of creative pathways.

Producers support these programs as teaching assistants - helping with equipment, production logistics, and creative problem-solving, while gaining hands-on experience in a collaborative filmmaking environment. This is a space to practice leadership, mentorship, and the behind-the-scenes rhythms of production.



### **Compensation for Producers:**

- Boot Camp only: \$600
- Camp Reel Stories only: \$1,200
- Both programs: \$1,800

Producers can indicate interest in Boot Camp, Camp Reel Stories, or both, depending on availability and what feels like a good fit. We do our best to align placements with those preferences, though working both programs is not guaranteed.

Please hold space for a **mandatory Producer Training on Wednesday, June 3 from 1:00–4:00 PM**, hosted at Oakstop in downtown Oakland. This session will ground the cohort in expectations, teaching practices, and set the tone for the summer ahead.

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### **Reel Stories Institute**

*Ages 18–24*

July 6–10, 2026

At the beginning of July, the focus shifts.

Following their time supporting Bootcamp and Camp Reel Stories, participants come together for **Institute**, a five-day creative intensive centered on their own work. Building on relationships and momentum from earlier in the summer, the cohort develops personal projects with mentorship, feedback, and dedicated time for creative exploration.

During Institute, Producers will meet on-site at a beautiful, professional film studio in Berkeley and turn their attention to portfolio development, works-in-progress, and new ideas. The week is structured around peer feedback, mentorship from working filmmakers, and conversations with industry professionals about pathways into film and media careers.

Because the cohort has already spent the early summer collaborating and supporting one another, Institute becomes something special - a space where young filmmakers can focus on their own work while still surrounded by a creative community that knows their voice and is invested in helping it grow.



At its core, the program is about building the full arc of creative practice - learning how to support a production, how to lead within a team, and how to carve out time and space to develop your own work.